

Combo Chart-Line and Clustered Column Chart

Version 1.0

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Power BI offer a single visualization that combines a line chart and a column chart. This combo chart will help us to make quickly comparison of data. Combo chart can have one or two Y axes.

Availability in Power BI:

Yes

Availability in Other Tools:

This is available in Tableau and Lumira.

Possible Usage:

- Combo chart is used when we want a line chart and a column chart with the same X axis.
- This chart is used to compare multiple measures with different value ranges.
- This chart is used to identify the correlation between two measures in one visualization.
- This is also used to check whether one measure meet the target which is defined by another measure. If we add line chart and column chart separately then we used more canvas space, so we can conserve canvas space if we use combo chart.

Thumb Rule for Usage:

Some useful guidelines of using line and clustered column combo chart:

- The combo chart is suitable for comparing two sets of measure values that are usually hard to compare because of the differences in scale.
- The combo chart can only be displayed vertically.
- In a combo chart, we need at least one dimension and one measure. You can only have one dimension but up to 15 measures.

How to Use X and Y Axis:

Continuous variable would be represented with the x-axis. In combo chart x-axis play a role as shared axis. The y-axis represents the measurement. Power BI creates two y-axes in combo chart allowing the datasets to be scaled differently.

Advantages:

- This charts help us to make quicker comparison of data.
- A line and clustered column chart presents data as a simple and easy-to-understand picture.
- We can add one single chart with the replacement of two separate charts.

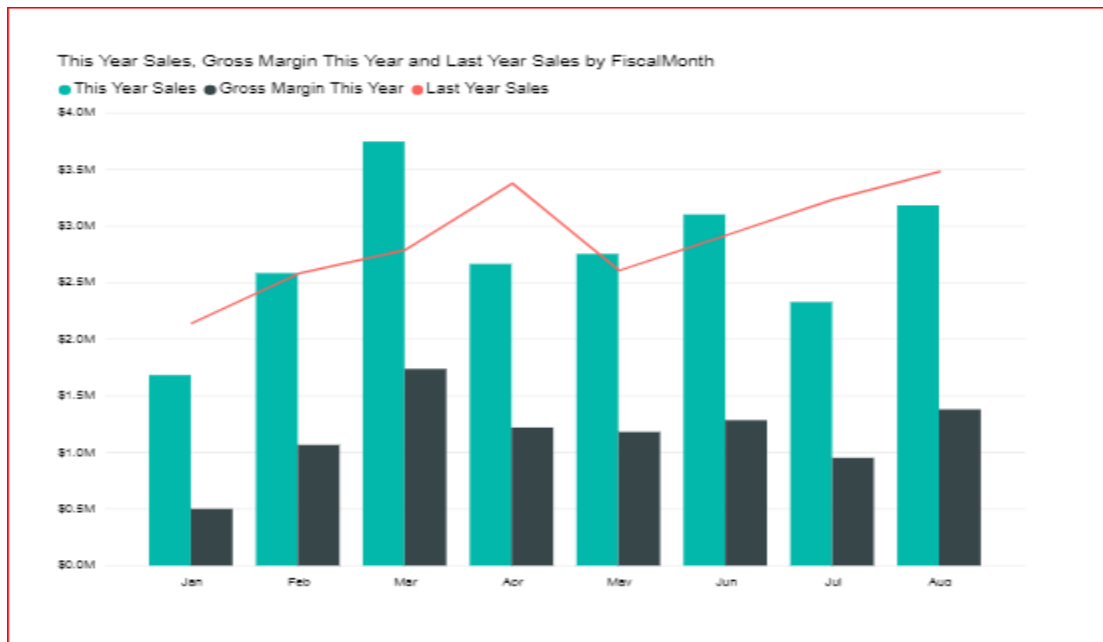
Disadvantages:

- This chart becomes visually complex when more categories or series are added.
- We can not use line and clustered column combo chart when we need to include two or more dimensions in the visualization.

Additional Comments:

The combo chart is ideal when we want to present measure values that are normally hard to combine because of the significant difference in value ranges.

Example View:



This Line and Clustered column chart shows the sale, gross margin of current year and last year sale by fiscal month.